



EPA/EPO/OEB
 D-80298 München
 +49 89 2399-0
 TX 523 656 epmu d
 FAX +49 89 2399-4465

Europäisches
 Patentamt

European
 Patent Office

Office européen
 des brevets

Generaldirektion 2

Directorate General 2

Direction Générale 2

Strehl Schübel-Hopf & Partner
 Maximilianstrasse 54
 80538 München
 ALLEMAGNE

Erhalten
 29. JULI 2004
 Strehl et al.

Telephone numbers:

Primary Examiner +49 89 2399-7562
 (substantive examination)

Formalities Officer / Assistant +49 89 2399-7891
 (Formalities and other matters)



Application No. 00 974 003.6 - 2221	Ref. EPA-39624	Date 28.07.2004
Applicant DISCOVERY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.		

Fi: 7. Dec 04
BY 7. Nov 04

Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC

The examination of the above-identified application has revealed that it does not meet the requirements of the European Patent Convention for the reasons enclosed herewith. If the deficiencies indicated are not rectified the application may be refused pursuant to Article 97(1) EPC.

You are invited to file your observations and insofar as the deficiencies are such as to be rectifiable, to correct the indicated deficiencies within a period

of 4 months

from the notification of this communication, this period being computed in accordance with Rules 78(2) and 83(2) and (4) EPC.

One set of amendments to the description, claims and drawings is to be filed within the said period on separate sheets (Rule 36(1) EPC).

Failure to comply with this invitation in due time will result in the application being deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).



BEATTY J P
 Primary Examiner
 for the Examining Division

Enclosure(s): 2 page/s reasons (Form 2906)



Datum
Date 28.07.2004
Date

Blatt
Sheet 1
Feuille

Anmelde-Nr.:
Application No.: 00 974 003.6
Demande n°:

The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents:**

Description, Pages

1-89 as published

Claims, Numbers

1-61 received on 15.05.2002 with letter of 07.05.2002

Drawings, Sheets

1/53-53/53 as published

1. Rule 112 EPC

In accordance with the applicant's request in the letter of 22.04.04 claim groups (ii) and (ii) have been searched with the following results:

Claim Set (ii) (Claims 16-26; 27-35; 47-60)

Category	Cited Document	Relevant Passages	Claims
X	US-A-5 930 768	whole document	16-26; 27-35; 47-60
A	US-A-5 726 909	col. 3, lines 3-57	16-26; 27-35; 47-60

Claim Set (iii) (Claims 36-46)

Category	Cited Document	Relevant Passages	Claims
X	US-A-5 819 301	Abstract Figures 3-7; 10,11 Col. 1, line 14 col. 7, line 40; col. 25, line 7 col. 31, line 38; col. 41, line 15 - col. 42, line 22	36-46
A	WO-A 99 45491	Page 7, lines 19-34	36-46



2. Documents

The following documents are cited by the examiner (see the Guidelines, C-VI, 8.7). Copies of the documents are annexed to the communication.

US-A-5 930 768

US-A-5 726 909

3. Further Examination

Since the applicant has not indicated on which invention searched by the Search Division the further prosecution of the application should be based, no further examination can be carried out for the time being (cf. the Guidelines, C-III, 7.10). The applicant is asked to state upon which invention further prosecution of this application should be based and to limit the application accordingly. Other inventions are to be excised from the claims, description and drawings if any.

The subject-matter to be excised may be made the subject of one or more divisional applications. The divisional applications must be filed directly at the European Patent Office in Munich or its branch at The Hague and in the language of the proceedings relating to the present application, cf. Article 76(1) and Rule 4 EPC. The time limit for filing divisional applications (Rule 25(1) EPC) must be observed.